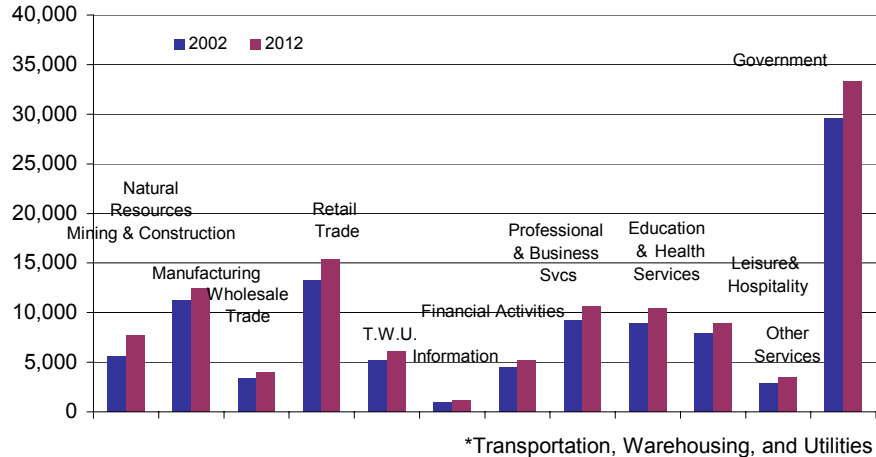


Tulare County Projection Highlights

Industry

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in Tulare County is expected to reach 118,800 by 2012 with an annual growth rate of about 1.6 percent. The largest gain is forecasted to occur in the Local Government sector, with an increase of over 3,700 jobs during the outlook period. Retail Trade will provide the second largest number of new jobs in the county (2,200) followed by Natural Resources, Mining and Construction (2,100). Educational and Health Services and Professional and Business Services will also experience significant gains.

The following graph displays 2002 employment and projected employment levels for 2012 by major industry sectors in Tulare County.



The fastest growth rate, measured by the annual percentage growth, will occur in Natural Resources and Mining (3.8%) followed by Real Estate and Rental and Leasing (3.0%).

Occupations

Occupational projections for the period 2002 to 2012 forecast:

- About 16,300 new jobs from industry growth,
- Nearly 25,000 job openings from Net Replacements,
- A combined total of about 41,300 job openings.

The 50 occupations with the most job openings will generate almost 59 percent of all job openings during the 2002-2012 period. These occupations are expected to generate about 24,160 total job openings. While these occupations are typically entry-level occupations, such as Cashiers, Retail Salespersons, and Combined Food Preparation and Serving Workers, higher skilled and higher paying occupations such as Teachers, Registered Nurses, and General Managers are also on the list.

The 50 fastest growing occupations are all expected to outpace the county's annual growth rate. Occupations in Construction and Health Services are scattered throughout this list. Construction related occupations require moderate to long-term on-the-job training. Education and training requirements vary for occupations in Health Services, ranging from short-term on-the-job training to a professional degree.

Average Annual Job Openings by Education and Training Level

